



OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY OF CONGRESSMAN J. RANDY FORBES

J. Randy Forbes, a Republican, was elected in a special election on June 19, 2001, and is serving in his second term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Randy, a life-long resident of Virginia, represents the Commonwealth's Fourth Congressional District, which encompasses 18 cities and counties stretching from the cities of Chesapeake and Suffolk to the counties of Chesterfield and Powhatan.

Randy's commitment of service to others has been the cornerstone of his professional career. He began his career in the private practice of law helping small and medium-sized businesses and ultimately became a partner in the largest law firm in southeastern Virginia. In 1989, he served the Commonwealth of Virginia in the General Assembly, first as a member of the House of Delegates, and then as a state senator in 1997. He served in both houses as a floor leader, and was chief patron of some of Virginia's most important legislation in the past decade including:

- The abolition of parole and establishment of truth-in-sentencing
- The granting of honorary high school diplomas to WWII veterans
- The first school construction grants program to help assist localities with building new schools
- Legislation enabling teachers to enforce discipline in their classrooms without fear of being sued
- Abstinence education programs as part of school curriculums

In addition, Randy authored both the Senior Citizens Bill of Rights and the Taxpayer Bill of Rights for Virginia. He also successfully worked to pass a bill requiring the informed consent of a parent before an abortion is performed.

Since his election to Congress in 2001, Randy has worked hard to represent all the residents of Virginia's Fourth Congressional District. Serving on three important House committees has enabled Randy to work on key defense, judiciary, and science and technology issues.

As a Member of the House Armed Services Committee Randy serves on the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee, and also the Readiness Subcommittee, which oversees the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. Congressman Randy Forbes believes in providing our military with the proper tools, facilities, and training to be the most effective military in the world.

Since taking office, Randy has supported legislation that directly strengthens our national defense, including missile defense, shipbuilding and ship repair. Randy has also supported the men and women who make our national defense as strong as it is, by voting for initiatives to improve housing, benefits, and quality of life.

On the Judiciary Committee Randy serves on three subcommittees: Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property; Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security; and the Subcommittee on the Constitution. Randy works with the committee to tackle significant national issues including combating terrorism, balancing the budget, reforming bankruptcy and class action legislation, restructuring the nation's medical malpractice system, working to ban

such practices as partial-birth abortion and human cloning, and exploring matters involving the Internet and other technology fields.

Randy works with the Science Committee to provide oversight for energy, space, science and technology issues. As the Committee's only member from Virginia, Randy strongly supports efforts to enhance our nation's space and aeronautics program. He promotes continued research and development so that the United States may maintain its competitive leadership in world aviation. As a member of the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, Congressman Forbes is currently investigating the Space Shuttle Columbia tragedy.

Randy serves on several congressional caucuses, or focus groups, including:

- Alzheimer's Task Force
- Army; Navy/Marine Corps; Coast Guard; Special Operations Force Caucuses
- Military Retiree-Veterans Caucus
- Cancer Working Group
- Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus
- Internet Caucus
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Task Force
- House Republican Israel Caucus
- Children's Caucus
- Diabetes Caucus
- Immigration Reform Caucus

Randy graduated from Great Bridge High School in Chesapeake in 1970. He was valedictorian of his 1974 class at Randolph-Macon College. In 1977, Randy graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Randy attends Great Bridge Baptist church, where he has taught Sunday school for over 20 years. He was born and raised in Chesapeake, Virginia where he still resides with his wife Shirley. He and Shirley have been married since 1978 and have four children: Neil, Jamie, Jordan, and Justin.